

REMARKS

Claims 2, 3, and 24 have been canceled. Claims 1, 5, 6, 11, 15, 21, and 22 have been amended. Claims 1 and 4 through 23 remain in the application.

Claims 3, 5, 6, 11 through 14, and 17 through 21 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of supporting intervening claim 2 and allowable subject matter claim 3. It is respectfully submitted that claims 1 and 4 through 23 are in a condition for allowance, which allowance is solicited.

CLAIM REJECTIONS

35 U.S.C. § 112

Claim 22 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

To further prosecution of the application, claim 22 has been amended to clarify the claim by changing the dependency to provide antecedent basis for “the flexible flaps”. As such, this claim is clear and definite. It is respectfully submitted that claim 22 is allowable over the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Claim 22 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, set forth in this Office Action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 22 has been amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. It is respectfully submitted that claim 22 is in a condition for allowance, which allowance is solicited.

35 U.S.C. § 102

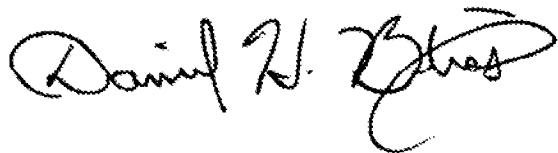
Claims 1, 2, 4, 7 through 10, 15, 16, 23, and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Williams (U.S. Patent No. 3,379,019). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claims 2 and 24 have been canceled and the rejection as to these claims is now moot. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 3. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 and 4 through 23 are allowable over the rejection.

SUMMARY

Based on the above, it is respectfully submitted that the claims are in a condition for allowance, which allowance is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



By: _____
Daniel H. Bliss
Reg. No. 32,398

BLISS McGLYNN, P.C.
2075 West Big Beaver Road, Suite 600
Troy, Michigan 48084
(248) 649-6090
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